

Kenosha City Council approves casino agreements

AP Wire Service

KENOSHA, Wis. Mar 08, 2005 (AP) - The City Council approved two agreements concerning the Menominee Nation's proposed \$808 million casino complex at a dog track.

One agreement details how the city and Kenosha County would share casino revenue payments, which the tribe estimates could top \$521 million over the first 22 years.

The second agreement outlines how the tribe would reimburse the city and county for services and lost tax revenues if the casino becomes reality.

The council voted 13-2 to approve the agreements Monday night. Project developer Dennis Troha said the council's approval was a key step in the tribe's pending federal application to hold the Dairyland Greyhound Park property in tribal trust.

"The federal government needs to see the support of the local community," Troha said.

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M.T.S. visits Trees for Tomorrow!



Students and staff from the Menominee Tribal School attended Trees For Tomorrow in Eagle River, WI from February 27, 2005 through March 2, 2005. Here all the participants stand in front of the welcoming sign.

Francisco M. Alegria Menominee Nation News

It was a BLAST....February 27, 2005 through March 2, 2005 the Menominee Nation News tagged along with 20 students from the Menominee Tribal School on

Tomorrow located in Eagle River. MTS), and Francisco Alegria Each student that participated in the Trees for Tomorrow field trip was selected to participate because of their good behavior attitudes in school. Chaperons for the field trip were Mike Clarke (Athletic Director their field trip to Trees for for MTS), Sue White (Teacher at

(Reporter for MNN). In conjunction with the MTS students field trip, Boscobell Highschool was also on a field trip at Trees for Tomorrow.

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Eagles soar to regional victory



Francisco Alegria/Menominee Nation News

The Menominee Indian Eagles boys basketball team are striving for an excellent season this year. On Saturday, March 5, 2005 before the Eagles' game against Crivitz, there was a pep rally held in their honor. The surrounding community filled the bleachers to cheer on their home team and show their support. That night the Menominee Eagles pulled off a victory in the Regionals against Crivitz (60-53), which qualifies them into the Sectionals semifinal which was held at the Antigo Highschool at 7pm against Amherst on Thursday, March 10, 2005 (results will be printed in the next issue). Congratulations to the Menominee Eagles on their WIAA Division 3 Regional victory.

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"This is a significant event."

The project needs approval from local governments and the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs before it reaches the governor's desk for final approval. The Kenosha County Board has not yet considered the agreements.

About 56 percent of Kenosha County voters approved the casino in an advisory referendum last November.

Alderman Charles Bradley, who voted against the agreements Monday night, said the deals take away local responsibility for development of a major corridor.

"It is easy to say, 'OK, 56 percent of the people voted for the casino.' Who wants to stand up and represent the 44 percent who voted against it?" Bradley said. "Somebody should. I'll be that person."

But Alderman Frank Pacetti said the council must look at what the majority of the community wants, and the casino proposal is just one piece of the city's future.

"It's not the panacea; it's not the end-all and be-all of how we grow and develop Kenosha," he said. "It's a component."

The proposal calls for a large casino and entertainment complex employing more than 3,000 and a payroll of \$138 million a year. The development would include a hotel, restaurant, spa and conference center. The tribe also would run the dog track.

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The students from MTS that were selected and participated in Trees for Tomorrow are as follows:

- -Ryan Connavichnah
- -Chequaten Doud
- -Dawson Latender
- -Tricia Murphy
- -Tara Murphy
- -Catherine Pocan
- -Cassandra Tousey
- -Tre Webster
- -Bronson Wescott
- -Jasmine Wynos
- -Richelle Awonohopay
- -Darius Peters
- -Mary Shawanokasic
- -Jerry Nahquaw
- -Darrin McPherson
- -Cassandra Tucker
- -Dionne Madosh
- -Daryl Waupekenay
- -Shawn Summers
- -Ben Perez

Day one...The students loaded up the buses with their backpacks full of extra warm clothes, snacks, and sleeping bags. On the bus ride to Eagle River you could hear teasing and laughter from the students because of the overwhelming excitement about the adventure they

had ahead of them. When the bus finally arrived to the Trees for Tomorrow site the students were able to view the rooms that they will be calling their home for the next two days of the field trip. After viewing their rooms they were given a brief introduction about Trees for Tomorrow and what they should be expecting in the next two days of their stay. Following the introduction they learned about cross-country skiing. The students then fitted up for some ski boots for the following day. Following the introduction and the cross-country skiing class, the students were treated with a warm meal. After each meal two students were picked to do composting duty.

What is composting duty? Well composting duty is when there is left over food and the left over food has to be put into a bucket and weighed on a scale. After weighing the food the two selected students (King and Queen of composting duty) write down how much the food weighed on a chart and take the food outside out to the composting waste dump. The composting is then used for fertilizer for plants and soil.

Day two...the students got an early awakening at 7:00am and breakfast was served at 7:30am in the dining hall. Following breakfast the students put their ski boots on and went outside where they took some skiing lessons from the Trees for Tomorrow staff. During the lessons some of the students were asked if they have ever been skiing before and about half of them said "No", that half of students who said "No" and the half that did have skiing experience split into two different groups.

The skiing instructors took the students through the basics of skiing. For example how to glide, how to hold your ski poles, and of course the one that came in handy the most, how to fall properly. After the students started to get the hang of things, the instructors took the kids onto a gulf course to test out their skills. As the students arrived at the golf course, anxious to try some down hill skiing and learn some new tricks, they split up into the same groups. Each group followed their instructors around the golf course. The first stop was the smaller hills. The instructor explained how to stand and slow down when your down hill skiing, then the instructor did a demonstration for the students. The students tried out the new technique one by one. After falling over the first couple times the students eventually caught on and it was time to go to the more advanced hills. On the more advanced hills the instructor explained a technique called "snow plowing." The technique is used to slow yourself down at fast speeds. The instructor also went through techniques on how to turn. The students each had a chance to try the techniques out.

After the student's adventure on the skis it was finally time for lunch. Following lunch there was still plenty of fun activities left for the day. The students retired their skies for the day and fitted themselves into a more steady and comfortable pair of snowshoes. Yes...snowshoeing, that means no more falling over for the day, right? The students again loaded up onto the bus lead by Trees for Tomorrow staff. The students were off on their second adventure for the day.

As they arrived at the site there was a cold chilly breeze in the air. The students were up for the challenge, a 1 mile hike into the wilderness. Being that the students were from the Menominee Reservation they looked straight into the wilderness and laughed because it was just like their back yards that they play in at home. The children strapped their snowshoes on, split into two groups, and off they went into the woods lead by staff from Trees for Tomorrow. The children walked through snow that must have been about 3ft deep. The wilderness was nice, quiet, and peaceful. One of the groups of students claim to have come in close counters of a couple of deer. The instructor showed the kids how to identify different types of trees. The instructor led the students to a spot in the woods where they were levitated on a hill next to a wide open lake, the image of the lake from atop of the hill side was stunning. The instructor asked the children to take five minutes of quiet time to themselves and enjoy the priceless

gifts that nature allows us to admire in delight. The instructor then trailed back to the buses where the students were welcomed back with some hot-chocolate.

Later on following dinner the children headed back into the class room where they learned about wolves. The students learned plenty of interesting facts about wolves. For example one interesting thing that they learned, well it is not considered a fact, but it is interesting, that the wolves in the wild are most commonly mistaken for deer when sighted crossing the road or in the wild. Interesting huh? These mistaken sightings of wolves for deer happen because the wolf has such long legs, much longer than that of a dog or coyote, but more like a deer. Another interesting fact is that you can instantly spot the difference between wolf tracks and domesticated dog tracks because a wild animal like a wolf hunts for a living and walks in a straight line to preserve energy. A ordinary house or domesticated dog will have wondering tracks because they do not have to worry about preserving energy because their owners will feed and take care of them. After class it was finally "Free Time!" The children surprisingly had enough energy for a little horse play.

Day Three was once again a early start with a good morning breakfast served at 7:30am. Today will be another exciting day of skiing. Today the students will be escorted to the Razor Back Ski trial. The students had a choice to either take the 3mile ski trail or the more advanced students could take the 4mile ski trial. The students had a chance to try ski trials with some pretty exciting hills with names like, "Bat out of hell." Sounds pretty scary, huh? Well the students were once again up for the challenge. Both groups of students did well and all came out of the trials safely and with a new story to tell of their adventure. There was even one story of a student, no names will be mentioned, but the student was skiing down a hill and yelled to everyone, "I'm the greatest!" it was just then that the student went face first into the snow with snow and left an indent of his body on the snow banks.

Well for the classes for day three. The classes were pretty interesting, they were about survival in the wilderness. The students learned about what to pack in case they were to go hiking. Did you know that the number one item to pack is a garbage bag? Yes a garbage bag, the reason for that is because of the many uses of a garbage bag, like patching up your tent with it, using it as a sleeping bag, keeping yourself or certain items out of the rain, etc. The students also learned, and not to worry any parents out there, but the students learned how to make a fire using a 9volt battery and a piece of wool. The students learned how to build a fire also.

Afterwards the students had a chance to test their listening skills. They were asked to go out side and make a fire in a bucket and melt a half a can of snow, using 3matches, a 9volt battery, one piece of wool, and a small piece of paper. Everything else the students had to go out into the woods and get. The students did an excellent job. In only a matter of minutes all the students had their fires flaring.

The students also had classes where they learned about logging. Most of the students were already familiar with logging, from relatives working at the Logging Mill, located in Neopit, WI. The students did learn some cool new facts though. They learned the names of some of the foods that the loggers nicknamed. For example, an easy one, "mush" was the nickname for oatmeal. In this class there were more fun games for the students. The students were then asked to put on their hats and head outside for the games. The students broke up into two groups.

During one game the students had to strike a match. Sounds easy doesn't it? Well the tricky part of this game was that there was a log sticking out of the ground and there was a small hole on the top of the log. In that small hole is where a match was placed facing heads up. The students were then asked to strike the match, vertically, with a small hatchet. If the match was struck in just the right spot the match would light.

The other game was where the students tested their team work. In this game the students used a two man saw. The students picked out a partner, and there was one student on each end of the saw, the students then were timed while they sawed through a piece of wood. To end day three the students had a class where they learned about bears. The students learned about brown bears, polar bears, and our favorite, black bears. If your a bear fan you better read these cool facts that the students added to their cool new animal facts. Did you know that a bear, in a short sprint, can out sprint a horse? Or how about that a polar bears skin is black, and the fur isn't white, the skin is actually translucent (see through). The students also learned about how bears hibernate and what sorts of foods that different types of bears eat. As we all know on the Menominee Reservation that black bears eat a lot of berries.

The fourth and final day. The students on this day went on the most memorable ski hike of the field trip. By this time the students (and especially the chaperones) were all skiing like pros. After breakfast the students laced up their ski boots and loaded up the buss. The students already knowing the routine, broke up into two groups. This ski hike was so memorable because halfway through the students made a pit stop to check out some birds. Well the students didn't just check out the birds, they hand fed the birds. Each student was given a hand full of bird seed and then the students waited patiently by a tree where the birds came down and sat on their hands, some birds even landed on a couple of the students heads. This for the students was a new experience.

After the ski trip the students had a special lunch. The lunch was the same great food made by the cooks, but the lunch was special because the Menominee Tribal School students did a presentation in front of the Boscobell Highschool about the Menominee Reservation. The students presentation went over the clan system, the schools, sports, government, and culture.

After the presentation it was finally time for the students to pack their things on the bus for the last time. On the buss ride back the students were quiet with thoughts that filled their minds with all the interesting and fun adventures they encountered on their trip.

The Menominee Nation News would like to thank Menominee Tribal School for inviting them to participate in the Trees for Tomorrow work shop field trip. It was quite the adventure.